



**San José / Evergreen  
Community College District**

**NEWS**

*Creating Opportunity, Equity and Social Justice*

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## **EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE RANKS #1 IN GRADUATION RATES**

(November 4, 2009---SAN JOSE, CA) In the past five years, Evergreen Valley College (EVC) improved its graduation rates by 16.2 %--far exceeding all other community colleges in this region. It's a double-digit increase, while many of the other colleges had decreases. That's according to a five year study conducted by the California Community Colleges Chancellors Office.

San José/Evergreen Community College District Chancellor Rosa G. Pérez, who oversees both Evergreen Valley College and San José City College, says this is encouraging news and is a tribute to the strategic work in the district as well as evidence of the motivation and commitment of our students: "There have been too many discussions about whether students like ours, who are heavily first-generation in college and low-income, have the motivation and the tools to succeed. Of course they do! Our District, with both colleges located in San José, invests its resources in supporting them and their goals and prides itself on hiring faculty that have a true dedication to equity and social justice. The evidence is in this outcome."

EVC President David Wain Coon attributes the success to a collective dedication and commitment among faculty and staff. "With further emphasis on closing achievement gaps among our students through our involvement with *Achieving the Dream*, a nationwide initiative focused on student success, and our commitment to improving completion rates for all students, we will continue to raise the bar."

MORE...



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#### **About Evergreen Valley College**

With student learning as its primary focus, Evergreen Valley College's mission is to empower students to expand their human potential and to succeed in a global, multicultural society. The College, which sits on a picturesque 175-acre site in the eastern foothills of San Jose, provides access to comprehensive and flexible post-secondary education to prepare students of all ages and backgrounds for balanced and productive lives and to improve the workforce and quality of life in our community.

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